

In response to the Office Action dated September 25, 2002, Applicant respectfully requests that the above-identified application be amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 11 and 14-17, and add new Claim 22, to read as follows. For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of all the pending claims are presented below. A marked-up version of the amended claims, showing the changes made thereto, is also attached.

11. (Twice Amended) An image reader, comprising:
- (a) a transparent plate adapted to contact an original;
 - (b) an image sensor unit including a light source adapted to illuminate the original, a reading element adapted to read an image of the original, and a housing adapted to mount said light source and said reading element, said housing being a rectangular parallelepiped and having a shaft or a bearing, said shaft or said bearing being disposed so as to be parallel to said reading element and being provided so as not to protrude from said rectangular parallelepiped;
 - (c) a holding member adapted to rotatably hold said image sensor unit; and
 - (d) a motor adapted to shift a positional relationship between the original and said image sensor unit held by said holding member,
- wherein said housing has a spacer which maintains a distance between said transparent plate and said image sensor unit.

12. (Not Currently Amended) An image reader according to Claim 11, further comprising a biasing member disposed between said holding member and said image sensor unit adapted to bias said image sensor unit towards said transparent plate.

14. (Twice Amended) An image reader according to Claim 11, wherein said spacer is integrally formed with said housing.

15. (Twice Amended) An image sensor unit mounted in an image reader, comprising:

- a light source adapted to illuminate an original;
- a reading element adapted to read an image of the original; and
- a housing adapted to mount said light source and said reading element, said housing having a hole mounting a spacer therein, which maintains a distance between an original-holding plate of the image reader and said image sensor unit, wherein said housing is movable relative to said original-holding plate.

16. (Amended) An image reading apparatus mounting said image sensor unit according to Claim 15, further comprising a motor adapted to shift a positional relationship between the original and said image sensor unit.

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17. (Amended) An image reader, comprising:

- (a) a transparent plate adapted to contact an original;
- (b) an image sensor unit including:
 - (i) a light source adapted to illuminate the original;
 - (ii) a reading element adapted to read an image of the original; and
 - (iii) a housing adapted to mount said light source and said reading element, wherein said housing is movable relative to said transparent plate and has a recess on a side which faces said transparent plate,
- (c) a slider engaged in said recess and adapted to contact said transparent plate;
- (d) a holding member adapted to hold said image sensor unit; and
- (e) a motor adapted to shift a positional relationship between the original and said image sensor unit held by said holding member sliding along said transparent plate.

18. (Not Currently Amended) An image reader according to Claim 17, further comprising a biasing member disposed between said holding member and said image sensor unit adapted to bias said image sensor unit toward said transparent plate.

19. (Not Currently Amended) An image reader according to Claim 17, wherein said housing has a shaft or a bearing arranged so as to be parallel to said reading element.